Landing Facilities at Calcutta Airport

76. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent news reports regarding poor facilities at Calcutta Airport, if so, what corrective measures have been taken so far;

(b) whether National Airports Authority is taking any steps to modernise navigational and landing aids to assist the Air Traffic Controller; and

(c) how many types of aircrafts are controlled by the ATC and whether there is any risk of mid air collision for want of adequate technical assistance, as brought out by the news reports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Government's attention has been drawn to the recent news report. Aircraft of various types from piston engine aircraft of 150 Kts. speed to Boeing-747 of 480 Kts. speed are handled by the Air Traffic Controller. There is no undue risk of mid air collision as adequate facilities to ensure safety are available. The communication and navigational facilities at airports are being constantly updated in a phased manner either by replacement of old technology equipment or by provision of new facilities.

Broad Gauge Line Between Sawai Madhopur and Jaipur

77. DR. ABRAR AHMED KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 642 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th November 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the Planning Commission's advice on the survey reports for conversion of Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur M.G. line into BG; if so, what is the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon and what is the time-schedule for the completion of this project;

(b) whether Government propose to make Sawai Madhopur a halting station for Rajdhani Express, Sarvodaya Express and Jammu Tawi Express for the convenience of passengers bound for Jaipur from Bombay and Ahmedabad and Jammu bound passengers; if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the number of new trains introduced in the country during the last three years as also the names of Railway routes on which they have been introduced and what is the number and the names of new trains introduced in Rajasthan during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Planning Commission have advised that a Final Location Survey for Gauge Conversion of Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur-Phulera-Jodhpur and Merta Road-Lalgarh, as the first phase for linking Jaisalmer-Barmer by Broad Gauge be taken up. The survey has since been ordered.

The cost of the project (first phase) would be around Rs. 350 crores. No time schedule has been fixed for completion of the project.

(b) No, Sir. These are long distance fast trains with limited stoppages.

(c) 172 non-suburban trains, including 8 trains serving Rajasthan have been introduced. However, introduction of trains is not undertaken state-wise. The details of new trains services is given in every publication of time table.

Projects for roads and bridges in Assam

78. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of projects for roads and bridges in Assam sanctioned under the Central Aid Programme of